

REMARKS

Claims 24-66 and 84-90 were pending in the above identified application. The Examiner rejected claims 23, 35, 47, and 54 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,144,505 to Nakanishi et al. The Examiner objected to the remaining claims 24-34, 36-46, 48-53, 55-65, and 84-90, as depending from rejected base claims. The Examiner indicated they would be allowed if written in independent form to include all limitations of any base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants cancel claims 24 and 28 without prejudice, and have amended claims 23, 26-34, 36, 40-42, 47, 49, 51-54, 56-66, 84-85, and 88. Applicants have also added new claims 91 and 92. After entry of this amendment, claims 23, 25-47, 49-66, and 84-92 will be pending.

Applicants have amended the title to reflect the inventions claimed in this divisional application. Additionally, applicants have amended portions of the written description to correct typographical and clerical errors, as well as improve the readability of various sentences and sections. No new matter has been added.

Claims 23 and 47 have been amended to recite the allowable subject matter of previously dependent claims 24 and 48, respectively. Applicants have amended claims 23, 26-34, 36, 40-42, 47, 49, 51-54, 56-66, 84-85, and 88 to correct typographical and grammatical errors and to use commonly used claiming terminology, but such amendments do not, and are not intended to, limit the scope of above amended claims. Claim 85 has also been amended to provide terms with a proper antecedent basis.

Applicants submit that all pending claims are allowable over the U.S. Pat. No. 6,144,505. Independent claims 23 and 47 now recite allowable subject matter as indicated by the Examiner. All other dependent claims, including claims 35 and 53 depend from one of the two amended independent claims, and are allowable for at least the same reason that claims 23 and 47 are

allowable. New independent claim 91 recites the allowable subject matter of claim 26 in addition to the subject matter of previously presented claim 23. New independent claim 92 recites the allowable subject matter of claim 27 in addition to the subject matter of previously presented claim 23.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 4, 2004

By: 

C. Larry O'Rourke
Reg. No. 26,014